REMARKS

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the non-elected claims in a divisional application, if such subject matter is not ultimately granted here.

Claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 1-2 have been amended. A clean copy of these claims is presented above. A mark-up showing the changes that have been made to these claims using brackets and underlining is attached. It is believed that no new matter has been added.

Regarding the traversal, Applicants note that the Examiner asserts the species lack unity of invention because they do not form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. The Examiner further asserts that claim 1 does not avoid the prior art of McFarland (WO 98/15501) and thus does not satisfy the requirements for finding a "special technical feature" under PCT Rule 13.2. In response, Applicants point out "the special technical feature" of the present application is the wet chemical preparation of a library of materials in the form of solutions or suspensions in a microreaction chamber. Accordingly, Applicants submit that unity of invention is fulfilled. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Combined Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement and the attached Mark-up Showing the Changes Made in the Previous Claim to Yield the Claim as Amended Above (5 pages total) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

Date: August 29, 2002

By _____
William C. Gerstenzang

MARK-UP SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE IN THE PREVIOUS CLAIM TO YIELD THE CLAIM AS AMENDED ABOVE

1. (Amended Once) A method for the wet chemical preparation of a materials library comprising a large number of solids from reaction mixtures having different compositions, characterized in that the reaction mixtures are introduced, in a spatially separated way, into microreaction chambers in removable reaction plates in a reactor and reacted **in the form of solutions or suspensions in the microreaction chambers at temperatures of up to 1000 °C and internal pressures of up to 1000 bar and wherein** the solids produced in the reactions being deposited in a spatially separated way on a removable reactor bottom plate.

2. (Amended Once) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reaction mixtures are [reacted in the form of solutions or suspensions in the microreaction chambers, which are] introduced into the reaction plates in the form of isolated cavities as bores [at temperatures of up to 1000 °C and internal pressures of up to 1000 bar].